

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Int'l. Appln. No. : PCT/NO2004/000225  
Int'l. Filing Date : July 21, 2004  
  
Applicant : Per Lothe  
Title : Method and Device for Protecting a Vessel's Loading  
Space from Excess Pressure  
  
Docket No. : 1935-00175  
Customer No. : 26753

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202  
January 20, 2006

Commissioner for Patents  
Mail Stop - New PCT Application  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

It is requested that U.S. national stage examination be carried out on the claims as amended herein.

Prior to computing the filing fee in this application, kindly amend the above identified application, as follows. The filing fee is to be computed on the claims of the application, as amended herein.

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

**Amendment to the Abstract** begins on page 5 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 6 of this paper.